we would urge an early call.

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1887.

Meeting of the Improvement

Association. The improvement Association met last week for the purpose of electing officers, and the transactoin of other business. When the time arrived for calling the meeting to order, there were so few present that one member mildly inquired, whether it would not be well for the Society to commit suicide, stipulating for an honorable burial rather than drag out a forlorn and miserable existence. But presently the number was increased and it was magnanimously determined to continue to exist for the benefit of mankingl, hoping for a better appreciation in the near future.

The officers of last year were unanimously re-elected for the ensuing year. The secretary, wishing to be relieved from the burden of official care, appealed to the constitution, for the purpose of showing that the election was irregular. Most of the members were not aware that there was such a thing as a constitution, and none of them were aware of its provisions. The net result of a hasty study of the constitution, was the discovery that there was not a quorum present, that no election could be held and that therefore the old officers held over.

It not being possible under the newly discovered constitution to transact any "business" the Society proceeded to "discuss," which occupation the thoughtful framers had permitted to members when enough were not present to constitute a quorum for the transaction of "business."

and the making of a Township map. Mr. Walter Freeman, Mr. Bancroft, and Rev. Mr. Ballentine were appointeda committee to investigate and report upon the necessary expense of preparing the surveys, and Dr. Richards was appointed a committee to report upon the laws affecting the subject. The President, Mr. Harvey Dodd, was authorized to call a meeting when the committees were ready to report. The Association is accused of talking much and doing little, and perhaps there is some truth in it. Still it would seem as though this were a two-edged criticism, for if the critics would do less standing around and talking, and come in and do something, the cause of the criticism might disappear. The organization is a valuable one. It rests with the people to furnish the the blood. This matter of grades is an important one. The Improvement Association offers just the machinery needed to put it through. Shall we not put the machinery in motion?

The superintendent of the Gas Company appeared before the Township Committee at the last meeting for the purpose of bearing an olive branch from the Company. He insisted that the Company which he repre sented was not a con-but a very consciencious organization. That all he wished to know was what was wrong and he would make it right. He seem ed to be inclined to lay the blame for short hours and stopped-up burners upon the lamp lighters. Now we most respectfully submit that it is the duty of the Company to see that its agents properly perform their duties. It can make no possible difference to the citizens of Bloomfield whose fault it is that they pay for light and do not get it, so long as the interesting fact re mains. We would suggest that once every two or three weeks some superior agent of the Gas Company make a tour of inspection after dark. Certain it is that if the Company is in earnest, it can have the lamps properly burning for the proper number of hours. Is it in earnest?

Prohibition Tactics.

New York at the present time forms an instructive exhibition of the tendencies of parties with relation to temperance. In 1884, a numerically small, yet, in the close balance of political parties, an important element made up the prohibition party, with candidates for Municipal, State, and National officers. The net result of the vote was the election of the Democratic Presidential ticket. As a protest it was effective. Like the wild fanaticism of Peter the Hermit, or John Brown it challenged attention and excited enthusiasm.

Leaders saw the need of meeting the rising demands of the people with practical reform. Measures have been framed with the approval of earnest temperance men like Dr. Howard Crosby, providing for high-license in the cities of New York and Brooklyn -or as in the case of the bill introduced by State-Senator Vedder, providing for the taxation of liquor-saloons.

throughout the State. The first of these laws was introduced by a son of Dr. Crosby, and passed both houses against the combined op-

position of Democrats and Prohibitionists, only to be vetoed by a Democratic Governor.

The Vedder bill was made a party measure in the Senate, and is likely to receive only Republican votes in the Assembly, when it will go to the Governor for his approval or veto.

We notice these things not because they are unusual, but to call attention to the extremely awkward position of a third party man.

He is truly a pitiable object. Mr Gladstone in writing of third parties,

"The intermediate position is essentially a false position, and nothing can long disguise its falseness." He also characterizes a third party as '(a public nuisance." In the light of history: such might well be the verdict of a competent jury upon the Prohibition party. This position is essentially false, injurious to public morals, and an offense to practical men.

No reasonable man supposes that prohibition is a possibility in New York, Brooklyn, Philadelphia, or Boston; yet Prohibitionists would have all temperance legislation set aside until their quack remedy shall be tried. They are not satisfied with moderate measures. High license or extreme taxation finds no favor in their eyes. They have joined with rum sellers and manufacturers to oppose the Crosby bill, and the Vedder bill, while giving their political support to the Democratic party, whose influence is upon the side of the Saloon.

Yet these are generally good men, though misguided. Their position is essentially a false position, and nothing can long disguise its falseness. As a protest, a party bolt may be useful as a policy, it is ruinous. The Prohi-The chief matter discussed was the | bitionist who fights and accepts a partial establishment of permanent grades victory is reasonable. He who fights and cares nothing for victory, is a fanatic. He cannot long lead, or command support.

It is not too much to say that thinking temperance men are becoming disgusted with their leaders. There is too much politics and too little temperance in their work.

If we are ever to have any curtail. ment of the saloon, it must be through some such bill as has been enacted in the New York legislature. Combined with provisions for local option in towns and villages, it will accomplish more for temperance than sweeping measures of prohibition. These must inevitably fail in the cities, to the neces sary debauchment of the people, and enormous loss of revenue to the treas

ury. Meanwhile lax and inefficient laws are permitted to remain upon the Statute books because extreme tem perance men block the way to some thing better. To again quote Mr. Gladstone's words, "They are a public

STATE ITEMS.

Hammonton poultry raisers got 60 cents per pound last week for spring chickens. The old station of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Riverton has been moved to West Palmyra.

Cape May City will be lighted the coming season by fifty electric lights, at a ost of about \$5,000.

The stock of the National Bank of Voodstown sells at \$258 per share, the

par value being \$100. An old sailor named Conrad Waldrick, living at Ancora, recently received back pension amounting to \$2,400.

There was sleighing at Newton, Sussex county, on Tuesday morning. April 19th, James A. Bradley will plant about 1,000 trees in and about Asbury Park this spring, and thinks he will make it part of his business to plant 500 annually hereaf

The post mortem examination of a cow that recently died at Elmer disclosed in its stomach a large iron ring, five large nails, five small lath nails, one screw and eleven good sized gravel stones.

appointed a committee to confer with the State officials in reference to having the remains of the late General Kilpatrick brought to his home, in Deckertown, from Chili, where they now lie.

Samuel B. Pancoast, of Woodstown, come down in one of his fields. He found upon it an order for a suit of clothes to the finder of the balloon. It had been sent by a clothing firm in Wilmington, Delaware.

A tobacconist and a grocer of Bordentown have adopted a plan of posting their delinquent customers by displaying their names in their windows, headed "Dead-

beats," together with the amounts owed. The Daft Electric Motor Company, of New York, is the highest bidder for the franchise of building and operating a street-car service in Asbury Park. The company offers to pay \$2,300 per year for ten years, or \$3,000 per year for twenty years for the privilege.

At Garfield a pleasure party of two women, three children and two men were out sailing on the Passaic river, Monday when one of the women lost her hat. In her efforts to recover it, she went overboard. The men tried to rescue her, and an instant later the boat was capsized. A youth named McDonald saved two lives by swimming from shore and holding a woman and baby until help came. Mayor Bogert and Mr. A. C. Hawes, of Garfield, rescued all the others.

The parents of the colored children who were concerned in the recent trouble between the white and colored schools in the Yorktown School district. Salem county, have brought suit for \$5,000 damage against the trustees of that district on the ground of refusal to admit their children to the white school. The defence of the trustees will be, it is stated that the colored children were not refused admittance, but were prevailed upon to return to their own school until higher authorities could be consulted.

Recent trouble in the Presbyterian church of Asbury Park has resulted in

nearly one hundred of its members leav ing and determining to organize an opposi-tion church at the Sewali Avenue Opera House. The feeling runs high between the two sects and where brotherly love once abounded, recriminations now exist. The squabble originated in the fact that the trustees, for reasons yet unexplained, demanded that the pastor, Mr. Moran, should resign. The secessionists claim that this unauthorized action was the resuit of an organized ecospiracy gotten up to injure the pastor and set at defiance the well-known wishes of the congregation. This knotty matter cannot be adjusted until after the 12th instant, when the Presbytery meets at Burlington and the report of the Trustees is submitted and acted upon.

Amusements.

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H. C. MINER Sole Proprietor and Manage Every Night and Wednesday and Saturday Marinee, Kiraify Bros.' Grandest Spectacular Production' 'THE NEW BLACK CROOK!"

> NEXT WEEK. Commencing Monday, May 9th, The Celebrated Actress,

Miss Rose Coghlan and her SUPERB COMEDY COMPANY, including

the Eminent English Actor, Osmond Tearle. Monday and Friday Evenings, "SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL," Thur-day Evening, Only Time,

Saturday Matinee,
"PEG WOFFINGTON." Prices as usual. Seats reserved without extra charge. Telephone Call 316.

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Tuesday. Wednesday and Saturday Evenings, and

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"The most charming Theatre in the World." Curtain rises at 8.15. Saturday Matinee at 2.

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Then we make a special point of our \$10 Men's Suit, which is being sold at wholesale for more than we ask for it at retail; strictly all wool, and good wool at that; it pays for itself in a season's wear. Our Men's Suits range in prices from \$7 to \$25, and are all sold with a special guarantee. Our Children's Suits are gaining more attention every day, because they are well made and marked down LOW.

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Having made, advantageously, an im- | Parasols, in neat plaid, a sorted color mense purchase last week of Sua Umbrel- very heavy satin; cheap at \$1.25. las and Parasols amounting to over \$10,-000, we have placed the same at BPECIAL

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his season's manufacture. The following will speak for themselves. An examination of our stock-will convince all of the truth of our statements. Don't miss your opportunity of securing a Sunshade at these low prices.

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We offer at \$1.44-An elegant asset We offer at 75c-10-rib Satin Coaching \$2. Parasols, with choice natural stoks, in all colors, worth \$1.

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